

pense too easily with the Severity of a necessary Examination, it may be imagined, that they have considered as real Success, what was in Truth only a Phantom.

It remains to say, that in these Researches I have coveted Truth, only for her own sake; and have no Interest in convincing those who may think proper still obstinately to believe, what has been published concerning lined Tubes, electrical Purgations, instantaneous Cures, &c. I do not pretend to make any of my Opinion, but those, who, having read without Prejudice what I have here related, may find themselves touched by my Reasons: But if after this there can be any one, upon whom the Love of the Marvellous can make a victorious Impression, I shall not think ill of them, if they embrace Opinions opposite to mine; *Qui vult decipi, decipiatur.*

XXI. An extraordinary Case of a Fracture of the Arm; communicated by Mr. John Freke, F. R. S. Surgeon to St. Bartholomew's Hospital.

*Read April 5.
1750.* **T**HE following Extract of a Letter from Mr. John Barde, Surgeon, in New York, having been communicated to me, I thought the Case so curious, and to have been treated in so skilful and regular a manner, as to be worthy of being laid before this learned Society.

J. FREKE.

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" IN May 1746. as Colonel *Morris's* Lady was
 " going from this City to *Morrisena*, the Co-
 " lonel's Country Seat, she had the Misfortune of
 " being thrown out of her Chaise by the Horses
 " suddenly falling down; by which means she had
 " both the Bones of her left Arm broke. She was
 " immediately conveyed to the *Hermitage*, a Coun-
 " try Seat belonging to the Honourable *Joseph Mur-*
 " *ray*, Esq; which is about a Mile and a Half from
 " the Place where she met with this unlucky Acci-
 " dent. Being sent for by the Colonel, I examined
 " the Case, and found the Bones broke in an ob-
 " lique Direction, a very great Contusion of the
 " Muscles, and the Arm already tumified; which,
 " together with the being three Months gone with
 " Child, obliged me, previous to the Reduction,
 " to bleed her in the Right Arm. I then care-
 " fully reduced the broken Arm, and applied the
 " proper Bandages.

" The Case succeeded, with less Inflammation than
 " usually attends more simple Accidents of this Kind;
 " and, in about twelve Days, she ventured to go
 " from the *Hermitage* to *Morrisena*, being about
 " six Miles. But what I think remarkable in this
 " Case is, that tho' the Ends of the fractured Bones
 " had been exactly applied to each other, and tho'
 " the Bandages had been continued forty Days, yet,
 " upon their being removed, the Callus remained
 " so soft and flexible, that her Arm could be bent
 " with the greatest Ease into any Position, and appear-
 " ed perfectly strait, to the Satisfaction of the Patient
 " and Family. But, as I observed the Callus to be
 " uncon-

“ unconfirmed, I re-applied the Bandage, which re-
“ mained on five Weeks longer.

“ Upon a second Examination, I found, to my
“ Surprize, and the great Uneasiness of the Patient
“ and Family, the Callus as soft and yielding as
“ before. I therefore could not help thinking this
“ Case to be similar to two Cases which *Hildanus*
“ gives the History of from his own Practice : For,
“ as the Patient at this time was about five Months
“ gone with Child, Nature determined those nutri-
“ tious and agglutinating Juices, which were necef-
“ sary to form and consolidate the Callus, into a
“ different Chanel ; *viz.* to the Support and In-
“ crease of the *Fætus*. As a Consequence of this
“ Opinion, I contrived a Bandage made of Velvet,
“ with four thin Blades of Steel, a Quarter of an Inch
“ broad, and seven Inches long, which were covered
“ with Velvet, and fixed to the Inside of the Velvet
“ Bandage ; and to the Bandage itself I fixed four
“ small Buckles, with their corresponding Straps.
“ The Bandage thus contrived, and buckled on the
“ Arm, resembled a Muffitie, and was wore with the
“ greatest Conveniency, keeping the Arm in a strait
“ Direction, for four Months longer. In the mean
“ time, the Patient was made easy by the encourage-
“ ing Hopes I gave her, that, after her Labour, the
“ Oeconomy of Nature would be more immediately
“ directed to the Recovery of the Use of her Arm.
“ And, indeed, so it turned out : For the Callus
“ remained unconfirmed, her Arm useleſs, and at
“ particular times painful, till within nine Days of
“ her Delivery ; when, all on a sudden, she ac-
“ quainted the Colonel, that her Arm was quite

“ free from Pain, and had a very different Feeling
 “ from what it had before. From that time, in less
 “ than a Month, the Callus was intirely confirmed,
 “ and the Patient recovered the Use of her Arm ;
 “ which, considering the oblique Direction of the
 “ Fracture, and the long-continued Softness of the
 “ Callus, has its natural Beauty and Straitness
 “ wonderfully preserved.

“ I know that a Woman’s Pregnancy is mentioned
 “ in general, by several Authors, as an Hindrance of
 “ the Callus being so soon confirmed as in other
 “ Circumstances. But, except the two Cases men-
 “ tioned by *Turner*, and taken from *Hildanus*, I
 “ do not remember to have read any History, where
 “ the usual Oeconomy of Nature, in restoring a
 “ fractured Bone, was so intirely, and for so long a
 “ Time, interrupted ; and where the Cause of such
 “ an Interruption appears so plain, as in the Case I
 “ have been here relating,” &c.

XXII. *A further Account of the Libellæ or May-flies, from Mr. John Bartram of Pennsylvania, communicated by Mr. Peter Collinson, F. R. S.*

Read April 5. 1750. **S**OME time ago I laid * before the Royal Society my Observations on the wondertul Appearance of the *Libellæ* or May flies of *Eng!and*. This Account being perused by my ingenious

* See this Transl. p 323.